

school chemistry teacher, Mr. Harris, Dean Rogers at Florida State University, and her husband.

A strong advocate for STEM education, Dr. McCay has worked to establish STEM mentoring groups between faculty and new students attending the Florida Institute of Technology. Along with her colleagues she does outreach to local high schools to encourage students to consider pursuing a career in one of the STEM fields. She also coordinates a K-12 Girls in Science Summer Camp the Florida Institute of Technology.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Mary Helen McCay, as well as Dr. Dwayne McCay and the dedicated faculty of the Florida Institute of Technology, for their contributions to science and engineering, and for their commitment to inspiring young minds and future scientists of our nation.

U.S.-KAZAKHSTAN RELATIONS

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 19, 2018

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, to the United States, and to recognize the strong and growing relationship between our two countries.

Following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, Kazakhstan became an independent nation, and the United States was the first country to recognize it. Since then, over the last 26 years, Kazakhstan and the United States have built a strategic partnership based on mutual trust, commitment, and genuine friendship in order to advance our bilateral political, military and economic goals.

Over the years, a major pillar of our strategic partnership has been built on a shared interest in nuclear non-proliferation and security. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Kazakhstan inherited the fourth largest nuclear stockpile in the world—roughly 1,410 nuclear warheads. Through President Nazarbayev's leadership, and in conjunction with the United States, Kazakhstan renounced its arsenal, became a non-nuclear state, and continues to be a leader in nuclear security.

Further, the economic ties between our two countries continue to expand, particularly in areas such as energy and investment. This is evident through our work to implement WTO obligations and improve the investment climate. In 2016, bilateral trade with Kazakhstan grew to \$1.9 billion (a 117 percent increase from 2015), supporting more than 7,000 U.S. jobs. Just last year, the USA Pavilion at Kazakhstan's International Expo showcased the successful collaboration between our two countries and paved the way for future joint projects and partnerships.

Lastly, as the Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, I am proud of the close partnership our two nations have forged on efforts to promote peace and stability around the world. I am particularly appreciative of the role Kazakhstan has played in support of United States counter-terrorism efforts following the unforgettable attack on our homeland on September 11, 2001. President Nazarbayev's dedication to working with the United States to defeat terrorism and extre-

mism around the world is sincerely appreciated, and critical to our success.

As a testament to our long history of friendship and advancement of mutual priorities, I look forward to increasing the collaboration between our two countries in the years to come. Kazakhstan remains one of our most reliable and trusted partners throughout the world, and I am eager to watch our relationship grow in the future.

HONORING SHERIFF K.C. HAMP

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 19, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary community leader, Sheriff K.C. Hamp of Tunica County, Mississippi.

Tunica County Sheriff Calvin "K.C." Hamp, known since childhood with the reversed initials K.C., is a native of Tunica County, Mississippi. K.C. is an active member of Union Street Church of Christ, where his brother, Sylvester Thomas Jr., is Pastor. He is married to Patonya Price-Hamp and has four children, two daughters, two sons and one grandson.

Sheriff Hamp was elected to his fourth term as Sheriff in November of 2015. Sheriff Hamp is a graduate of Rosa Fort High School and holds an Associates of Arts degree from Coahoma Community College. He attended the University of Mississippi to obtain his Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice; moreover his training and education is ongoing.

K.C. began working with the Tunica County Sheriffs Office in 1994 and started his career in law enforcement as a Deputy Jailer. During his 20 year tenure with the Tunica County Sheriffs Office his assignments have included Patrol Supervisor, Auto Theft Investigator, D.A.R.E. Officer and Internal Affairs Investigator.

Sheriff Hamp is an organizer of the Tunica County T.R.I.A.D. and is a member of the National Sheriffs' Association, Mississippi Sheriffs' Association, MS D.A.R.E. Association, Tunica County Literacy Council and Tunica County 10-Point Coalition.

Sheriff Hamp was appointed by Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour to the following state boards: Mississippi Crime Stoppers, Advisory Council, Byrne-JAG Drug Task Force Committee and Mississippi Trauma Advisory Committee, in which his appointment with the Mississippi Trauma Advisory Committee has continued under Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant. He also serves on the D.U.I. Advisory Task Force Committee, Mississippi Department of Corrections Oversight Task Force, Asset Forfeiture Task Force and Mississippi Child Death Review Panel.

K.C. is elected to serve as President of the Mississippi Sheriffs' Association beginning June of 2016. He has served as Vice President, 2nd Vice President and 3rd Vice President.

K.C. has been a volunteer funeral director with Henderson Funeral Home in Tunica, Desoto and Panola Counties for over 25 years. He feels this is an opportunity to serve and interact with people in a time when they need a friend the most.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sheriff K.C. Hamp for his dedication in being a respected community leader.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 19, 2018

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to vote on the afternoon of Thursday, January 10, 2018 and Friday, January 11, 2018 as my mother passed away. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Roll Call Vote No. 8, I would have voted No; Roll Call Vote No. 9, I would have voted No; Roll Call Vote No. 10, I would have voted No; Roll Call Vote No. 11, I would have voted No; Roll Call Vote No. 12, I would have voted Yes; Roll Call Vote No. 13, I would have voted Yes; Roll Call Vote No. 14, I would have voted Yes; Roll Call Vote No. 15, I would have voted Yes; Roll Call Vote No. 16, I would have voted No; and Roll Call Vote No. 17, I would have voted Yes.

IN HONOR OF 2018 NASCAR HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE RON HORNADAY JR.

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 19, 2018

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the racing legend Ron Hornaday Jr. upon his induction into the ninth class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

Ever since his early days it was clear that Ron Hornaday Jr. was born to race. A second generation racer, he was destined for high speed. Success followed him through every step of his journey which culminated in one of the most impressive careers in NASCAR Truck Series history.

Upon his retirement, Ron Hornaday Jr. had amassed 51 total wins, 360 starts and 27 pole positions. His accomplishments also include holding 158 top fives and 234 top 10s in the Truck Series, both all-time marks. Additionally, Ron Hornaday Jr. won five straight Truck Series races, which has only been achieved three other times in NASCAR national series history. With the heart of a true champion, Ron Hornaday Jr. is the embodiment of racing and will now take his place among the greats in the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

This year's class was selected by a comprehensive voting panel that included track owners, retired competitors, industry leaders, members of the media, and a nationwide fan vote. In total, a group of five was chosen to join the ranks of other NASCAR legends in the Hall of Fame. Ron Hornaday Jr. is especially deserving of this honor and will now be enshrined forever for his contributions to the sport.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Ron Hornaday Jr. on his induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.